

# Ozbike

No 306 THUNDER DOWN UNDER

**EXCLUSIVE:**

*Wild Aussie Design Blows 'Em  
Away at Daytona! First Pics!*



**Gold Coast Bike Week**

- Rebels Dubbo Bike Show
- Satans Soldiers Swap Meet Party
- Satans Riders Rolling Dice Run





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## ON THE COVER:

The sun rises on the sensational Aussie-designed V-Rex. Our French connection Alain Sauquet took these fabulous shots of the just-launched machine on location around Miami, Florida, over in the good ole U.S. of A.

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pics by  
Alain  
Sauquet

You will remember *Ozbike* Issue 270 when we ran a huge story on an outrageous-looking custom called Dreambike. Although the bike looked pretty bloody real to us, it was actually a computer generated set of images created by Tim Cameron, our Art Director. Well Ozbikers, you're not gonna believe this but—bloody hell—it has been built for real!

# V-Rex:

## Aussie-Designed Sensation takes on The World!



The V-Rod-engined machine looks sexy under a Florida evening sky.





**A**T THE RECENT Daytona Bike Week there was really only one bike to see—V-Rex. Spotted all over Daytona, it was finally pinned down long enough to win its category in the famous Daytona Boardwalk Bike Show. It also stopped just long enough at the famous Rat's Hole Bike Show to place 9th out of 150 entrants—not bad considering it's a production bike, NOT a one-off custom machine like the rest of the field! Yes, the Dreambike, which is now officially known as 'V-Rex', had landed and was causing an absolute sensation in Daytona. So what's the story here?

It all started back in December of 2003, in Sydney, Australia, when 3D artist and member of the Motorcycle Designers Association (MDA) Tim Cameron sketched a cruiser motorcycle on a scrap of paper. A pure flight of fancy, Cameron drew out a crazy-looking, low-riding design. Using his 3D computer modelling skills, Cameron began to build what he started calling his 'dream bike' in the only place he thought it could ever exist, the self-contained virtual 3D world inside his computer. He spent two months 'building' the design in 3D down to the bolt heads, in a type of program normally used for Hollywood-type special effects, to create 'photo-realistic' images of the bike so convincing that the average punter would be hard pressed to pick them from the



**... the bike not only retains the striking looks of the original design, but functions perfectly as a real world motorcycle**



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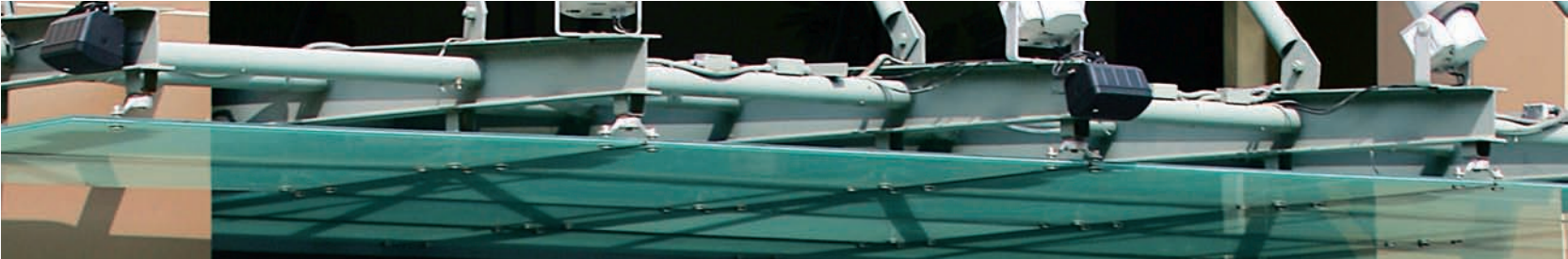


If anyone possessed the talent to bring this outrageous new design alive, it was this man.











real thing. *Ozbike* magazine had been a major backer of Cameron's designs previously having already run the 'Skeletor' 3D single-cylinder bike spread back in issue 244, and these new images of the 'Dreambike' became the basis for an eight-page story and appeared on the cover itself. This story went on to generate considerable interest both locally and internationally and the images began to appear on websites and leading motorcycle magazines around the world. Just this story all by itself was a satisfying result for Cameron, but it all pales considerably in comparison with just what was about to happen next!

Enter engineering genius and bike builder extraordinaire, Christian Travert, based in Florida, USA. Christian had been responsible for the engineering and building of the utterly outrageous 200 mph 'Y2K' jet turbine-powered bike and had happened across pictures of the Dreambike on the worldwide

web. Something struck Christian about the futuristic design and he found himself beginning to apply his considerable engineering talents to some of the gnarlier problems posed by Cameron's design.

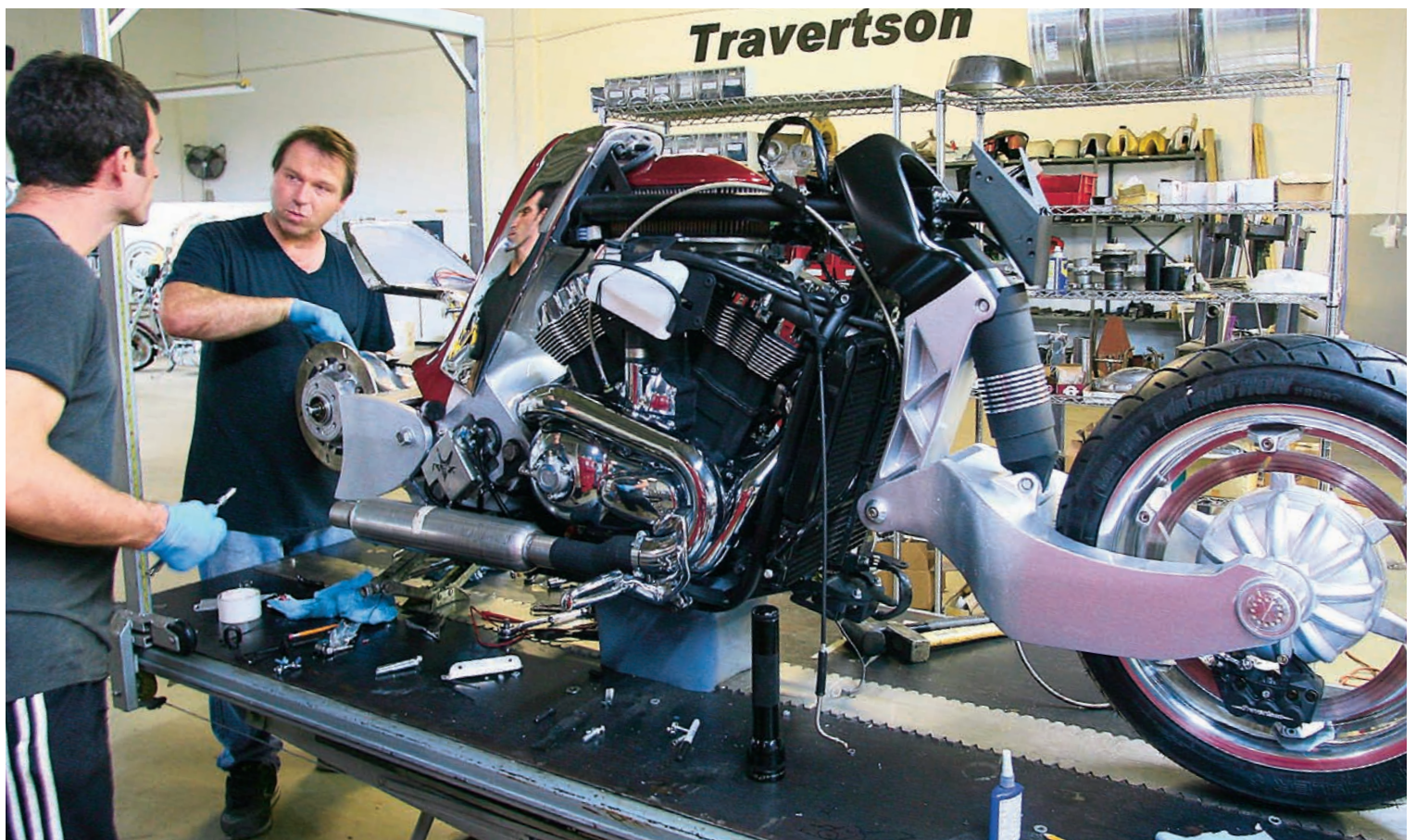
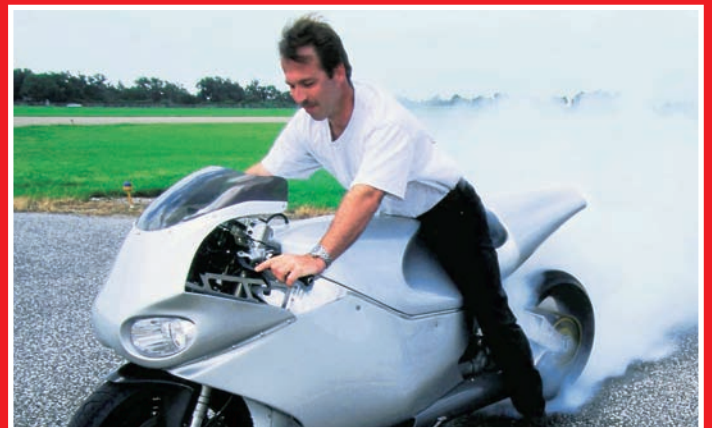
After spending two weeks in careful study of the images of the design, in September 2005, Christian sent Cameron a short email entitled: 'Re: Dream bike on the Streets of America' in which he simply stated: "I can build it." Cameron knew from Christian's credentials that this was someone who had already achieved the near impossible by building the Y2K jet bike. If anyone



## ...and here's one he made earlier....



**S**O WHAT did Christian Travert do before building the V-Rex? How about design the world's fastest production bike, the insane 'Y2K' turbine-powered 'jet-bike' as made famous by American talk show host and bike nut Jay Leno. It's said the jet exhaust from Leno's Y2K once accidentally melted the front right off a too-curious driver's car that was sitting a bit too close behind him at a set of lights in L.A.





BELOW: The V-Rex production line at Travertson Inc in Fort Lauderdale is getting up to speed rapidly.  
RIGHT: A face only a mother could love.



possessed the talent to bring this outrageous new design alive, it was this man.

After suitable negotiations, an agreement was formalised, and by October 2005, Christian was already emailing digital photos of various components as he created them. Of course Christian was not content to only build ONE example of this motorcycle, but duly commenced plans to start up a factory to accommodate an entire full-blown mass production facility for this machine!

Since the opening of the Travertson Inc factory based in Fort Lauderdale in early 2006, Christian and his team were racing the clock and working crazy hours on the massive task of making the bike, now christened 'V-Rex', production-ready. It is one thing to create a one-off show bike, quite another to go into full-blown series production.

Throughout the entire task of actually making the bike 'for real', Christian has taken the already extreme design and effectively gone further. New engineering solutions have been formulated so that the bike not only retains the striking looks of the original design, but functions perfectly as a 'real world' motorcycle.

Pre-orders for the V-Rex have been rolling in even before the machine had turned a wheel, such has been the excitement and anticipation of what must surely be one of the most mind-blowing new motorcycle designs ever seen.

Do you want a V-Rex? Better head over to [www.travertson.com](http://www.travertson.com) and order one, but you'd better be quick, rumour has it that demand is already outstripping supply.

We don't know where it goes from here but one thing is for certain, *Ozbike* will proudly continue to be a true supporter of bike building talent in Australia. With the likes of Scottie's Choppers and now Tim Cameron making their mark across the pond, we reckon it's time to stand and yell: "Ozzy, ozzy, *Ozbike*! Oi, Oi, Oi!" 🏍️

LEFT: Flip-top fuel tank cap features V-Rex logo on one side and the logo of Tim Cameron Design, the Aussie designer, on the flipside.





